United Nations A/56/L.31

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
3 December 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 21 (c)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Agreement between the Council of Europe and the Secretariat of the United Nations signed on 15 December 1951 and the Arrangement on the Cooperation and Liaison between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Council of Europe of 19 November 1971,

Acknowledging the contribution of the Council of Europe to the protection and strengthening of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law on the European continent, including its activities against racism and intolerance, the promotion of gender equality, social development and a common cultural heritage,

Acknowledging also that, with its significant expertise in the field of human rights, democratic institutions and the rule of law, the Council of Europe is contributing to conflict-prevention, confidence-building and long-term post-conflict peace-building through political, legal and institutional reform,

Stressing the importance of adherence to the standards and principles of the Council of Europe and its contribution to the solution of conflicts throughout the whole of Europe,

Acknowledging the contribution of the Council of Europe to the development of international law, inter alia, international criminal law,

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Noting the increasing openness of the Council of Europe, through its legal instruments, to the participation of States of other regions,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the further improvement of cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and its agencies and the Council of Europe, both at the level of headquarters and in the field;

3. *Welcomes* the increasingly close cooperation between the Council of Europe, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

4. *Welcomes also* the efforts of the Council of Europe to assist States in the ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[2] in particular the most recent meeting, held at Strasbourg, France, on 13 and 14 September 2001;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Council of Europe for its contribution to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001;

6. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on children, to be held in 2002;

7. *Commends strongly* the contribution of the Council of Europe to international action against terrorism, as defined by the Council's Committee of Ministers in the conclusions of the session of 8 November 2001 at Strasbourg, taking into account Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001 and 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001, including the intensifying of legal cooperation to combat terrorism;

8. *Welcomes* the participation of the Council of Europe in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, in its cooperation with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, notably with regard to the reform of the judiciary, the promotion and protection of human rights, including rights of minorities, property rights, population registration, childhood and youth programmes, education policies and the protection and restoration of cultural heritage;

9. *Commends* the role of the Council of Europe in the capacity-building programme of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, especially with regard to the electoral process in preparation of the Kosovo Assembly elections on 17 November 2001;

10. *Welcomes* the activities of the Council of Europe, aimed at fulfilling the role assigned to it, under the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina,[3] with regard to the protection and promotion of human rights, judicial reform and prison reform;

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[1] A/56/302.

[2] A/CONF.183/9.

[3] See A/50/790-S/1995/999.

11. *Welcomes also* the major contribution of the Council of Europe to the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, launched at the initiative of the European Union, and to the development of regional projects to support its aims;

12. *Welcomes further* the active role of the Council of Europe in the tripartite meetings between the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue exploring, with the Chairman of the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, possibilities for further enhancement of cooperation, information exchange and coordination between the United Nations and the Council of Europe;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in implementation of the present resolution.